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Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lt. Governor

Kristen Mahoney
Executive Director

August 3, 2009

Dear Law Enforcement Partner:

The O'Malley-Brown Administration believes that domestic violence is one of the areas in which we can truly make a difference in Maryland. New laws passed by the Maryland General Assembly create an unprecedented opportunity to prevent domestic violence. The passage of these laws is an important event in Maryland history and the result of much hard work and dedication on the part of law enforcement and victim advocates.

Beginning October 1, 2009, the following new laws will take effect:

- Respondents of final protective orders will be required to surrender all firearms to law enforcement as well as refrain from possession of any firearm for the duration of the final protective order (HB 296).
- Judges, at their discretion, may order a respondent of a temporary protective order to surrender all firearms to law enforcement and refrain from possession of any firearm for the duration of the temporary protective order (HB 302).
- Judges may extend the duration of a temporary protective order from 30 days up to six months for protection or other good cause (HB 98).
- Judges may extend the maximum duration of a final protective order up to 2 years under certain circumstances (HB 971).
- District Court Commissioners or judges may order a law enforcement officer to use reasonable and necessary force to return a minor child to the custodial parent at the time of service of an interim or temporary protective order (HB 464).

The Governor's Family Violence Council (FVC) in partnership with the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) and the United State's Attorney's Office (USAO) will host three regional summits to assist law enforcement in compliance and implementation of Maryland's new domestic violence laws. Focusing primarily on the new firearms surrender laws, experts in the field will present model policies and procedures to support policy development, aid training efforts, and guide successful implementation.

Statewide Domestic Violence Laws Summits

What: 3-hour summits offered regionally on Maryland's new domestic violence laws, policies, and procedures.

Who: Appropriate law enforcement audience for the summit:

- 1) Command staff whose primary job functions include legal and policy matters.
- 2) Education and training staff responsible for training officers who handle domestic related incidents and procedures.

Time: All trainings begin at 9 a.m. and end at 12 p.m.

Wednesday, September 2nd

Cambridge Police Department Training Center

8 Washington Street, Cambridge, MD 21613

Registration Deadline: August 19th

Wednesday, September 9th,

Hagerstown Community College, Career Programs Building, Rooms 212 and 214

11400 Robinwood Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742-6590

Registration Deadline: August 26th

Tuesday, September 22nd

Anne Arundel Community College, Cade Building, Room 219

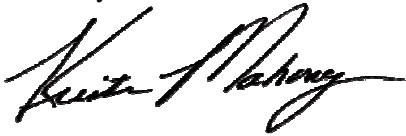
101 College Parkway, Arnold, MD 21012

Registration Deadline: September 8th

Each participant must register via the attached Registration Form and return to Erin Newton as noted on the form. Space is limited. Registration deadlines are specified above. The registration form and further information may be accessed via www.goccp.maryland.gov. For assistance, please contact Erin Newton at erin@goccp-state-md.org or 410-821-2887.

We look forward to your continued partnership in the fight to prevent domestic violence in our State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristen Mahoney", with a stylized, flowing script.

Kristen Mahoney
Executive Director

Attachment:
Registration Form